The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information as will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Entered as second-class matter September 30, 1912, at the Post-Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918.

AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

VOL. 14, NO. 33. WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1924 WHOLE NO. 708.

NO LIMIT TO INJUNCTION EVIL; WOULD CHECK PRIVATE TALK

Columbus, Ohio, Nov. 1.—The state supreme court has set aside an injunction secured by a married woman in Adams county prohibiting an unmarried woman speaking to her husband.

The Adams county common pleas judge probably imagined he was enjoining striking trade unionists, as the defendant was "perpetually enjoined from visiting, speaking or going near the home of the plaintiff, or any other house or place where the husband may be, 'or writing or from writing or speaking to him in any manner, either directly or indirectly, communicating with him by word, letter, writing, sign or symbol."

In a majority decision, setting aside this remarkable order, the supreme court said: "The decree in this case is an extreme instance of government by injunction. It attempts to govern, control and direct personal relations and domestic affairs."

The court said that ample provision has been made by law whereby the husband may be required to discharge every obligation imposed upon him toward his wife and his children, but there was no claim that he is a leader in any of these particulars, and that the injunction is merely based on apprehensions of the plaintiff.

"Such extension of the jurisdiction of equity to regulate and control domestic relations, in addition to the legal and statutory remedies already provided, in our opinion is not supported by authority, warranted by sound reason or in the interest of good morals or public policy," the court said.

In sustaining this reasoning, Judge Allen, the woman member of the supreme court, took this fling at injunction judges:

"Equity refuses to enjoin many acts which it does not condone. Equity will not enjoin the commission of a crime. This is not because it condones the commission of crime, but because it takes no part in the administration of criminal law."

In dissenting from his colleagues, Chief Justice Marshall said the term "government by injunction" is "rather odious," and that it had its origin "in the wide-spread criticism of injunction suits arising out of labor strikes, where it was claimed that the government was trying to maintain law and order by civil processes."

Justice Day also dissented. He believed the injunction should stand, though he intimated that this power of the court should be "rarely exercised."

"This injunction, while set aside, will give the people an understanding what labor unions suffer under by injunction," said Thomas J. Donnelly, secretary of the Ohio state federation of labor, and for years a leader in the fight against the wrongful use of this process.

"The logical ending of the labor injunction is the destruction of government by law and rule by the judiciary and the courts alone. The Adams county court favors this plan, but the Ohio state supreme court refuses to go that far," the unionist said.

TRIAL-BY-JURY RULE IMPORTANT TO LABOR

Superior, Wis., Nov. 1.—Trade unionists in this section have an especial interest in the trial-by-jury decision of the United States supreme court, because the defendants were arrested near here and were tried in the local federal court.

In 1922 Federal District Judge Luse, sitting in this city, enjoined striking shop men on the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad from having more than one picket "at each point of ingress or egress" of the railroad shops.

The railroad management claimed that shop men at Hudson, Wis., were violating the court order and Sam Michaelson and nine other strikers were cited for contempt. They were brought to Superior and demanded a jury trial, as provided in the Clayton law. Judge Luse refused the request on the ground that the Clayton law did not apply in this case. The shop men were then given various sentences, ranging from 15 days in jail to fines of $100.

Cadigan and Cadigan, attorneys in this city, appealed to the federal circuit court at Chicago, but Judge Luse's decision was sustained. They then carried it to the United States supreme court, with the aid of Donald R. Richberg, attorney for the railway employes' department, A. F. of L.

Attorney John Cadigan expressed the opinion that the supreme court's reversal of the lower courts "is one of the biggest victories ever won by labor in the United States supreme court."

The decision establishes that congress can enact laws providing for a jury trial in cases of criminal contempt, he said.

AUTO REPAIR MEN UNITE

Chicago, Nov. 1.—Auto repair men in this city again prove that persistence wins. They have formed a union after a five-year effort.

A recent health test shows that out of 100 auto mechanics but 40 were in a sound condition. The other 60 were victims of monoxide poisoning, high blood pressure or stomach trouble on account of the nature of their employment.

These conditions have forced many competent machinists out of this calling. The first work of the new union will be to improve working conditions.

CLOAK UNIONS TO MERGE

New York, Nov. 1.—Three large unions of cloak makers, affiliated to the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union, will be merged.

COURT CHANGES FRONT WHEN PUBLIC OBJECTS

Seattle, Nov. 1.—Bowing to an aroused public opinion, the state supreme court has reversed its decision which permitted dual La Follette electors to be placed on the state ballot.

The first decision resulted in such criticism that when a demand was made for a re-hearing, the court ordered that the entire matter be referred back to Superior Court Judge Ronald of this county for an investigation and recommendation.

At this hearing it was shown that a well-known politician called a meeting of a few friends at a local hotel. The politician had the minutes of an alleged convention already written, with himself named as chairman. The minutes of the convention and the selection of La Follette electors were indorsed. The politician immediately departed for the state capital, where he filed his nominations. "Convention in Longview," the Kelso unionists state. "One mill is running. The company's town. Union politics, with a dozen of workers brought from near and far by the boom advertising, has brought the usual result."

The State Labor News, official paper of the Washington state federation of labor, makes this comment on the supreme court's reversal:

"That the court has announced in reversing its decision by the adverse political atmosphere created will, of course be denied by the courts and their friends, but this will not alter the reverse opinion held by a large body of our people."

WORKERS WILL START CO-OP. CLOAK SHOP

Cleveland, Nov. 1.—Organized cloak makers in this city are planning to start a co-operative cloak shop, with President Bertstein of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union is assisting the unionists.

MEAT CUTTERS ADVANCE

Chattanooga, Tenn., Nov. 1.—Organized meat cutters have secured a new contract which provides for improved working conditions. The agreement has been accepted by several firms that formerly refused to recognize the union.

PRINTING PRESSMEN GAIN

Denver, Nov. 1.—Printing Pressmen's union No. 40 has established the 44-hour week and a $44 wage scale. This is a reduction of four hours in the work week.

"PATRIOTIC" SUGAR BARONS PUT "PAY" IN GOVERNMENT

Baltimore, Nov. 1.—Long after the 1924 presidential campaign has passed into history, 15,000 citizens will remember Senator La Follette's "sugar speech."

Definitely and logically the senator showed how special privilege uses government to mulct the people, to terrify honest public officials and makes pawns of officials.

Lack of time, Senator La Follette said, precluded reference to other combinations of capital. That is true. The same methods as the sugar crowd. Acting together, they control the old political parties, they finance and fight presentation in high office, and control large sections of the public press and other avenues of information.

The following is a summary of the La Follette sugar story:

Under the Payne-Aldrich-Cumber tariff law, a commission may hold hearings on tariff rates and recommend to the president that rates on any item may be lowered or increased. The president is empowered to act on that recommendation.

When the commission opened hearings on the sugar tariff it was discovered that the wife of one member of the commission—Glassie—owned $144,000 stock in a Louisiana sugar mill. One other member of the commission was formerly a textile lobbyist and another member was a lobbyist for the pottery industry.

Three members of the commission—Vice Chairman Culbertson, Costigan and Lewis—insisted that Glassie was not qualified to act as a sugar tariff judge. Glassie refused to retire.

Culbertson, Costigan and Lewis appealed to the president to stop this scandalous proceeding, but Mr. Coolidge remained silent. The commissioners then asked Senator La Follette to aid in having Glassie debarred from the hearings. A resolution to that effect was introduced in the senate, but it was killed by death by the sugar senators from Louisiana.

In the house, however, the Glassie opponents were more successful. They passed a law that his salary would stop if he did not retire from the sugar hearings.

After the commission concluded its hearings, and before it made a recommendation to the president, Mr. Culbertson was called to the office of Senator Smoot of Utah, chairman of the powerful senate committee on finance and also interested in the western sugar beet industry. Mr. Culbertson accepted the invitation and found William V. Hodges, leading attorney for the sugar interests and treasurer of the Republican national committee, in Senator Smoot's office. The commissioner resented this apparent attempt to secretly influence a Judge.

All through the early part of last summer every pressure was applied to Chairman Lewis to get the dates on which members of this union were killed by objects falling from buildings and scaffolding under the plasters and that builders be compelled to place their holding machines at least 16 feet from the structure.

STREET CAR MEN GAIN

Boston, Nov. 1.—A board of arbitration has awarded a 2½ cent an hour increase for 7,000 employes of the Boston elevated street railway company. The board, whose members, who comprise the majority of the employes, will receive a maximum of 72½ cents an hour.

ERIE ROAD PROSPERS

New York, Nov. 1.—September profits of the Erie railroad will approximate $2,000,000, as compared with $1,300,000 the previous month. The September profits reach record heights.

Chamber Of Commerce Building Erected Under Union Conditions

Washington, Nov. 1.—The magnificent new building of the United States chamber of commerce, located within one block of the White House, and nearly ready for occupancy, is another monument to the skill and artistry of the organized building craftsmen.

The new home for organized business is one of the most beautiful examples of classic Roman architecture in this country.

Officers of the chamber announced that the building would be erected under the so-called "open" shop plan. When the contractors began operations, however, observing persons discovered that only union men were employed. This condition continued during the entire construction, union building craftsmen are now pointing to this latest testimonial to their ability.

RAILROAD POSES AS AN "EDUCATOR"

Washington, Nov. 1.—The right of public service corporations to take sides in political campaigns, under the guise of "educating the public," was challenged by the senate committee that is probing campaign contributions.

"Is your railroad chartered as an educational institution, or to engage in the transportation business?" asked Senator Caraway of Vice President Atterbury of the Pennsylvania railroad.

It was shown that the Pennsylvania superintendent was assumed to "educate the public" by printing stereotyped phrases and shopworn arguments on his living car menus and through other publicity. The cost of this "education," which the railroads put in the highest priced publicity men in the country, is charged to operating expenses and is paid by the people in the form of freight and passenger rates.

Senator Caraway said that if a corporation has the right to spend $1 in this manner, it has the right to spend $10,000,000.

COMPANY TOWN FAILS; HOSTILE TO UNIONISM

Kelso, Wash., Nov. 1.—The boom town of Longview, near here, has collapsed and Kelso organized labor is asking for aid in behalf of the unemployed non-unionists, who include southern negroes, Mexicans and Japs.

Longview was erected by the anti-union Long-Bell lumber company, which operates in the south and along the Pacific coast. The company has its own bank, and controls the banking business of Kelso, its own stores, markets, hotels and all property. It rather "had its way" in Longview, but "busted in Longview," the Kelso unionists state. "One mill is running. The company's town. Union politics, with a dozen of workers brought from near and far by the boom advertising, has brought the usual result."

"HARD TIMES" MAKE MANY CRIMINALS

Philadelphia, Nov. 1.—Business depression is responsible for most of the juvenile delinquency cases in criminal law, according to E. N. Hackney, chief probation officer. Addition to drugs and bad home conditions are factors in juvenile and adult delinquency, but more than all else, unemployment is the leading cause, Mr. Hackney said.

The probation officer intimated that while the public makes much of the heinous crime attention should be paid to the thousands of men who may be out of work at the time. When men are without employment, the danger of law violation is lessened, he said.

ELECTION NOT TO BLAME

New York, Nov. 1.—Those who blame election uncertainty for present-day business conditions will have to find other excuses after November 4, according to C. F. Hughes, financial writer, in the New York World.

"In rather sharp contrast to the view that the uncertainty of the election is causing most of the hesitation in business is the view that most of the present paralysis will remain in the remain after the political contest is decided," Mr. Hughes said.

"This optimistic gathering ground, especially as seasonal expansion quiets down and price strength is restricted mainly to farm products, will be hailed by belief that the election is in many cases merely an excuse for a situation which is actually of an unsatisfactory nature for other reasons."

MUST PAY DIVIDENDS

Trenton, N. J., Nov. 1.—The court of errors and appeals has ruled that where a corporation passes dividends on non-cumulative preferred stock, the stockholders does not lose his right to these dividends.

Corporation directors have assumed that when dividends are passed for any one year, whether earned or not, the stockholders' right for that year has lapsed. The decision by the court is for the highest courts, as it involves the entire structure of dividend payments, and is being watched closely by stockholders of the Southern railway for $22,900,000 back dividends they claim is due them.

WANT LIVES PROTECTED

Denver, Nov. 1.—Hoisting engineers are urging the passage of a city ordinance that will compel the builders to have them delay their report until after election. The department of justice was used by the plasters and Culbertson was urged to accept a position as member of the federal trade commission, but refused.

Costigan, Costigan and Lewis appealed to the president to stop this scandalous proceeding, but Mr. Coolidge remained silent. The commissioners then asked Senator La Follette to aid in having Glassie debarred from the hearings. A resolution to that effect was introduced in the senate, but it was killed by death by the sugar senators from Louisiana.

In the house, however, the Glassie opponents were more successful. They passed a law that his salary would stop if he did not retire from the sugar hearings.

After the commission concluded its hearings, and before it made a recommendation to the president, Mr. Culbertson was called to the office of Senator Smoot of Utah, chairman of the powerful senate committee on finance and also interested in the western sugar beet industry. Mr. Culbertson accepted the invitation and found William V. Hodges, leading attorney for the sugar interests and treasurer of the Republican national committee, in Senator Smoot's office. The commissioner resented this apparent attempt to secretly influence a Judge.

All through the early part of last summer every pressure was applied to Chairman Lewis to get the dates on which members of this union were killed by objects falling from buildings and scaffolding under the plasters and that builders be compelled to place their holding machines at least 16 feet from the structure.

STREET CAR MEN GAIN

Boston, Nov. 1.—A board of arbitration has awarded a 2½ cent an hour for 7,000 employes of the Boston elevated street railway company. The board, whose members, who comprise the majority of the employes, will receive a maximum of 72½ cents an hour.

ERIE ROAD PROSPERS

New York, Nov. 1.—September profits of the Erie railroad will approximate $2,000,000, as compared with $1,300,000 the previous month. The September profits reach record heights.

INSANITY GASOLINE KILLS MANY WORKERS

Elizabeth, N. J., Nov. 1.—Several workers have become violently insane and died because of tetra-ethyl lead poisoning at the Standard oil plant here.

Tetra-ethyl lead added to gasoline prevents automobiles from backfiring. This leaded gas is sold under the name of ethyl gas.

Dr. Yandell Henderson, professor of applied physiology at Yale university, and an authority on the action of gases on the human body, said ethyl gas is one of the greatest menaces to life, health and reason, because of its insidious character.

"It produces the most dangerous form of lead poisoning," he said. "By being volatilized, the lead is introduced quickly into the blood through the lungs and makes its attack on the brain and nerves." Dr. Henderson declared that the sale of this gasoline should be prohibited. It is not sold in New York at the present time.

"If an automobile from another state using this gas should have engine trouble in a crowded street in New York city and release a quantity of gas with the lead mixture, it would be likely to cause gas poisoning," Dr. Henderson said.

"The gas has a slight odor, but it is not sufficient to warn the breather that the fumes are dangerous immediately, he does not know his danger and the damage may take place later."

GOOD SURROUNDINGS MEAN LONGER LIFE

Memphis, Tenn., Nov. 1.—Dr. J. J. Durrett of the city board of health made a first-class trade union speech at a convention of nurses in this city. The medical man said:

"Shorter hours provide more time for recreation and life in the open naturally bring about just the conditions that the health authorities prescribe for the prevention as well as the cure of tuberculosis.

"Statistics show that where living conditions make the greatest improvement the mortality rate of tuberculosis has made the greatest decline."

In thanking Dr. Durrett for these sentiments, Editor Cohen of the Labor Review said:

"He had given organized labor credit for waging the fight to shorten the working day and improve home conditions and the sufferers of the blind would have discounted your remarks and they might have been suppressed in quarters where they need to go."

SAFETY CONFERENCE CALLED BY HOOVER

Washington, Nov. 1.—Secretary of Commerce Hoover has called a national conference on street and highway safety to meet in this city on December 15, 16 and 17.

The purpose will be to obtain better organization and co-operation in the reduction of traffic accidents. Organizations of all kinds will be invited.

"The importance of this question," Secretary Hoover said, "needs no emphasis beyond the bald statement of the facts brought out that last year not less than 22,600 persons were killed, 675,000 injured and $600,000,000 of property damage incurred in traffic accidents. This represents an increase of 80 per cent within the last seven years. Of the accidents, about 85 per cent were due to automobile traffic.

"This is a national loss so appalling as to warrant the most complete study of prevention and effort at drastic remedy."

POSTUM CEREAL PROFITS

New York, Nov. 1.—During July, August and September of this year the Postum cereal company's net profits were $1,416,696. This is an increase of $100,000 over the same period last year.

The Postum company was started by the late Charles W. Post, of Battle Creek, Mich. He was a moving spirit in the "National Citizens' Alliance, one of the first anti-union organizations of a national scope in this country.

WINNING UNION SHOP

Detroit, Nov. 1.—As a result of their organization drive, machinists in this city are securing union agreements and better working conditions. Scotten-Dillon company has signed the machinists' contract which calls for the eight-hour day and $1.15 an hour.

PROFITS IN CORN PRODUCTS

New York, Nov. 1.—Net profits of $2,521,861 for the third quarter of this year is reported by the Corn Products refining company. Profits for the second quarter were $2,198,275. Net profits for the first nine months of 1924 were $7,959,910.

DOHENY SUIT DRAGS WHILE HE PUMPS OIL

Los Angeles, Cal., Nov. 1.—The government's suit to annul former Secretary of the Interior Fall's contract with the Doheny oil companies promises to be a long drawn out contest. Priceless treasure is the stake, and the integrity of many business men and public officials is involved.

The government is attempting to prove to Federal Judge McCormick that the transfer was a conspiracy devised by Fall and the Doheny interests whereby the latter were to gain control of the oil reserves in the Elks hills, near Bakersfield, this state. These oil lands were set aside by the government for use by the navy whenever an emergency arose. The government claims that Mr. Doheny himself has stated the contracts are worth $100,000,000 to him.

While the courts are discussing who owns the oil, the private interests of the oil monopoly are draining the reserves. Numerous wells are being worked on eight-hour shifts pumping thousands of barrels of oil. This will continue while the government's suit wends its way through the lower courts and finally to the United States supreme court.

CARELESS BUSINESS CAUSE BIG WASTES

Washington, Nov. 1.—"One dollar in every three produced in this country is being destroyed through wastes in industry that can be prevented," Edwin W. Ely, of the division of simplified practice, department of commerce, told a group of business men at a meeting in this city.

This waste is an insidious enemy, and is largely due to lost motion—lack of production, storage and handling of hundreds of varieties, styles or sizes of everyday commodities for which there is limited to but a small proportion the number in the handling of such items which are responsible an added charge on those items which are more active.

Mr. Ely said that the procedure of simplified practice, urged by the department of commerce, is neither technical nor scientific. It is rather the application of common sense measures to sets of conditions business men are unaware of until their attention is called to same.

One of the results of simplified practice is the reduction in the number of industry 90 per cent of the demand is found to cover but 10 per cent of the items. Ely explained that such figures before a conference representative of an industry.

Mr. Ely said, "Simplified practice is the obvious, common-sense one—the elimination of most of the other 90 per cent of items."

He emphasized that his division has no police power or regulatory authority in any form. Its function is to point out wastes.

MINE WORKERS UNITE; 100 PER CENT UNION

Shenandoah, Pa., Nov. 1.—Every mine worker in this district is a member of the United Mine Workers of America, is the report President Golden made to the biennial convention of district No. 9 held in this city. The complete unionization of the district is due to the efforts of local unions to the colliery unions. The United Mine Workers claim jurisdiction over all employes in and around coal mines, and wherever a possible the colliery, or mine, union is established. In some respects this system is similar to the industrial plan in union printing offices. It permits workers to first attempt to adjust grievances with the management.

It is the first time in the history of district No. 9 that a 100 per cent organization was recorded. There has been dissension and divisions in some sections of the district, but harmony and unity has been established through the fair and vigorous application of the principles of the United Mine Workers by President Golden and associate officials.

ROADS SHOW NET GAINS

New York, Nov. 1.—The September income of 24 of the principal railroads show increases when compared to, the same month of last year. The gross income of these corporations was $256,154,604 in September, as against $240,082,439 in September, 1923, a gain of $16,072,165 for the year.

These railroads reported net earnings of $57,261,220, compared with $46,183,312 in September last year.

WILL URGE AMENDMENT

Chicago, Nov. 1.—Officers of the Illinois state federation of labor are preparing to submit the federal child labor amendment to the state legislature, Secretary Gillhaus announced at the convening of that body. The proper joint resolution has been drawn up and the federation officials will confer with other organizations in sympathy with the amendment, that unified action may be had.

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT GAINS

Washington, Nov. 1.—Factory employment increased 2 per cent during September, according to a statement by the federal reserve board. The board's index of production in basic industries adjusted to allow for seasonal variations, rose 9 per cent in this period. This was the first advance in such production since January.

PUBLICITY OF INCOME TAXES ANGERS SPECIAL PRIVILEGE

Washington, Nov. 1.—Publication of income tax payments has caused a greater sensation than the recent oil exposures. Men who take no interest in these scandals and who smile indulgently when labor attacks injunction judges, are enraged at what they term "interference with liberty" when the public reads of income tax payments that range from thousands to millions of dollars.

These payments, however, are on the minimum incomes of many individuals and corporations. They do not include income from tax-exempt state and municipal bonds and from the first Liberty loan, which is tax exempt. The approximate total of these three grades of bonds is $30,000,000,000.

The income tax law also allows wide latitude for depreciation, amortization and other exemptions, which is used by corporations to conceal excessive incomes.

Several months ago the income tax bureau of the treasury department sanctioned an amortization allowance of $15,589,614.39 to the Aluminum company of America, in which Secretary of the Treasury Mellon and his family are interested. This corporation is known as the aluminum trust and was recently charged with controlling the price of kitchen utensils used in the home of the nation.

The operation of the income tax law was illustrated by Senator La Follette, who calls attention to the $240 income tax payment of an oil operator who secured one of the valuable naval oil leases under the Fall-Daugherty regime. This operator declined to show the senate committee the books of one of his subsidary companies, and Senator La Follette now charges that the oil magnate paid that subsidary 12½ per cent, which he should pay to the government as income tax.

The income tax publicity law was passed by the last congress. The fight was led by Senator Norris, and was opposed by President Coolidge and the old guard. This law provides that income tax payments shall be open for public inspection. It has been discovered that another law provides that income tax documents shall not be published. This contradiction has resulted in much confusion.

Attorney General Stone has ruled that the income tax books may be inspected but this information can not be published.

The next congress will witness a furious drive to repeal the Norris law. This will be met by a determined an effort to make all income tax exemptions public.

The publicity is worrying large income tax payers, as they will be handicapped in future campaigns for a sales tax and for reductions in the surtaxes, so favored by Secretary of the Treasury Mellon.

FORMER LABOR PANACEA THROWN INTO DISCARD

New York, Nov. 1.—The proposal that labor be represented on corporation boards of directors is opposed by Samuel McRoberts, president of the Metropolitan trust company. He says the theory is "fundamentally unsound," as directors decide the financial and business policies.

"To be able so to decide, they must have the capacity, training and experience to enable them to consider the business from every standpoint," he says. "Labor is represented on the board of directors.

"The proposal to labor representation on these boards was haled as a panacea by those who will do everything for the workers except allow the workers to do something for themselves.

"While not intending to do so, Mr. McRoberts warned labor that wages must be lowered, because this country could not profess competition in the world's markets.

LABOR AGENT ARRESTED; NON-UNIONISTS TRICKED

Morgantown, Pa., Nov. 1.—The labor agent of the anti-union Diamond fuel company has been arrested for operating without a license. This agent assures prospective strikebreakers that the Diamond company pays more than the union rates, and that there is no labor troubles. On arriving at Morgantown they are asked to sign a "yellow dog," wherein they agree not to join a union while employed by the company. The workers then discover that they will be paid one-half of the union rate. Blacklisted and are flourished by the guards, who intimate that they will "persuade" the duped workers to "live up to their contract."

Many merchants in this city have pleaded they are not interested in the fight of the miners to secure union conditions, but these merchants are changing front since it is whispered that the company contemplates the establishment of a store, so "its hands" will remain on the company property.

LABOR TEMPLE DESTROYED

Oakland, Cal., Nov. 1.—The labor temple in this city was destroyed by fire. The cause is unknown.

COURT DENIES REVIEW TO SANTA FE EMPLOYES

Washington, Nov. 1.—The United States supreme court has refused the plea of Santa Fe railroad employes that their case be reviewed. The employes were convicted on "conspiracy" charges in the federal courts of California because they refused to man defective equipment out of Needles, Cal., during the shop men's strike of 1922. On the trial-by-jury section of the Clayton law, the Santa Fe employes asked the supreme court to review their case.

The employes insist that their refusal to man the railroad equipment was in no sense a conspiracy to interfere with the mail or with interstate commerce, but that their purpose was to enforce safe working conditions. The trial jury accepted the government's conspiracy plea and the higher courts have ruled that the jury has this right.

The conviction of the most widespread propagandas ever staged in this country. The publicity department lured the strikers deserting trains on western deserts, and bringing untold hardship to women and children. The strikers were subordinates to end the propaganda by giving wide publicity to the fact that Needles, Cal., where the trains were supposed to be abandoned, is not a wild waste, but is a city of 5,000 population with modern hotels and other accommodations.

BROKERS RAISE RATES

New York, Nov. 1.—While brokers object to wage demands of their organized workers, they have concluded to do a little "wage" tilting themselves. The governing committee of the New York stock exchange has recommended higher commissions on security transactions by members. This is the second increase since the armistice.

LANDIS DIDN'T VOTE

Chicago, Nov. 1.—Federal Judge Landis favors jailing citizens who fail to vote, but he has overlooked the great American duty. In response to Prof. Merriam of the Chicago university, the latter pointed out that a survey of the 1923 election by the university shows that the base ball commissioner did not cast his ballot.

RIGID LIVING STANDARDS REJECTED BY U. S. LABOR

Indianapolis, Nov. 1.—American workers refuse to accept a set living standard, though they approve rigid economy and other workers in France, Belgium and Great Britain, according to Thomas Kennedy, president of district No. 7, United Mine Workers, writing in the United Mine Workers' Journal.

The trade unionist represented the United Mine Workers at the world mining congress held at Prague, Czecho-Slovakia, last summer.

"In France and Belgium, one finds that the trade unions, especially the miners' union, have adopted principles with regard to the fundamental working of the industry which are in part similar to that of Great Britain," President Kennedy writes.

"Briefly, in the determination of France and Belgium that 'wages must be based upon the cost of living, and that they must change to the cost of living.' The wages in the mining industry are regulated more or less upon the basis of a sliding scale, with a minimum subsistence wage, with the wage fluctuating according to increase or decrease in living costs.

"Very little improvement or elevation of human standards can be had where wages are based upon a standard that does not contain what might be considered a living wage. In other words, if workers were existing upon the bare necessities of life, and with bad housing and living conditions, the fixing of wages upon the basis of such a living would naturally serve to keep the standard at that level, and very little improvement could be made."